

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 IAEA V 05646 251552Z

63

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 NEA-14 ISO-00 ACDA-19 SCI-06 OMB-01 FEA-02

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07

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FM USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4620

INFO AEC GERMANTOWN

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

CONFIDENTIAL IAEA VIENNA 5646

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SUBJ: FURTHER VIEWS ON PAKISTANI AEC CHAIRMAN KHAN ON
INDIAN EXPLOSION

REF : (A) IAEA VIENNA 5014; (B) IAEA VIENNA 5291

1. MUNIR KHAN, PAKISTANI AEC CHAIRMAN, HAD A ROUND-UP SESSION WITH ME LAST WEEK BEFORE HIS DEPARTURE FROM VIENNA. HE HAD REMAINED IN VIENNA DOING BUSINESS WITH AGENCY DURING WEEK FOLLOWING BG DEBADE ON INDIAN EXPLOSION AND WILL RETURN PAKISTAN VIA PARIS.

2. KHAN, AS RESPECTED LONG TIME FORMER IAEA EMPLOYEE, AND CLOSE COLLABORATOR WITH US MISSION, HAS PERSONAL VIEWS RE THE NPT WHICH REVEAL A GENUINE AND DEEP CONCERN ABOUT THIS LATEST STIMULUS TO NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION. HE FEELS THAT THE INDIAN ACTION HAS PRODUCED A MAJOR CRISIS WITH RESPECT TO THE NPT AND THE FUTURE OF AGENCY SAFEGUARDS, AND HE ANTICIPATES THAT SEVERAL OTHER COUNTRIES WILL TRY TO JOIN THE NEW INDIAN "CLUB". IN ADDITION TO OBVIOUS CANDIDATES ARGENTINA AND CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 IAEA V 05646 251552Z

BRAZIL, HE SUGGESTED IRAN AS ANOTHER EARLY POSSIBILITY.

OTHERS MIGHT FOLLOW SUIT UNLESS A MAJOR EFFORT IS MADE BY THE SUPER POWERS TO BRING THE SITUATION UNDER CONTROL. THIS LED TO QUESTIONS ABOUT THE DEGREE OF CONTROL WHICH THE U.S. WOULD EXERCISE IN THE ISRAELI AND EGYPTIAN BILATERAL AGREEMENTS--A SUBJECT WHICH INTERESTED HIM CONSIDERABLY.

3. EXPRESSING DEEPEST DISAPPOINTMENT AT FAILURE OF PARIS CONSORTIUM TO REACT IN ANY WAY TO INDIAN EXPLOSION, KHAN WONDERED WHRN US WOULD ASSERT LEADERSHIP TO STEM THE PROLIFERATION TIDE. HE FELT U.S. STATEMENTS AT IAEA JUNE BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING WERE HELPFUL, BUT WOULD NOT DETER ANY OF SEVERAL COUNTRIES WHICH MIGHT DECIDE TO FOLLOW THE INDIAN EXAMPLE.

4. WITH RESPECT TO PAKISTAN'S FUTURE COURSE OF ACTION, KHAN SAID HE WAS THREE-WEEKS OUT OF TOUCH WITH ISLAMABAD, BUT HE WOULD RECOMMEND ON HIS RETURN THAT PAKISTAN CONTINUE TO PRESS FOR A NUCLEAR FREE ZONE INTHE SUB-CONTINENT, OR ATTEMPT THROUGH WORLD PRESSURE TO ASSURE INDIAN ACCEPTANCE OF A TOTAL SAFEGUARDS REGIME ON ALL HER NUCLEAR MATERIAL AND FACILITIES, IN MEANTIME MAINTAINING CONTINUOUS ATTACK ON THE VALIDITY OF INDIAN PEACEFUL NUCLEAR INTENTIONS. HE IS CONVINCED THAT INDIA HAS ALREADY MADE THE DECISION TO DEVELOP A NUCLEAR WEAPONS CAPABILITY, AND THAT ANOTHER TEST WILL BE HELD FAIRLY SOON.

5. KHAN SAID HE EXPECTED PAKISTANI ATTACK WOULD BE PRESSED AT ALL LEVELS AND IN ALL POSSIBLE FORA, ADMITTEDLY WITH LIMITED CHANCE OF SUCCESS. THE UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES WOULD INCLUDE THE SUMMER GENEVA CCD SESSION, THE IAEA SEPTEMBER GENERAL CONFERENCE AND THE FALL GENERAL ASSEMBLY. HE WAS UNAWARE WHETHER MATTER WOULD BE PUT TO SECURITY COUNCIL.

6. I REMINDED KHAN THAT PAKISTAN'S POSITION WOULD BE INFINITELY STRENGTHENED IF IT WOULD ACCEDE TO THE NPT. HE RULED THIS OUT AS TOTALLY IMPOSSIBLE FOR DOMESTIC POLITICAL REASONS BUT SAID THAT PAKISTAN WITHIN A NUCLEAR FREE ZONE AGREEMENT WOULD ACCEPT COMMITMENTS SIMILAR TO THOSE IN THE TREATY.

7. KHAN ALSO CONJECTURED (MAKING CLEAR HE WAS SPEAKING PERSONALLY) WHETHER US WOULD RESPOND FAVORABLY TO A PAKISTANI CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 IAEA V 05646 251552Z

REQUEST FOR A PEACEFUL NUCLEAR EXPLOSION TO BE CONDUCTED BY US IN PAKISTAN--FOR EXAMPLE, TO EXPLOIT MINERAL DEPOSITS IN BALUCHISTAN. COMMENT: THIS APPEARED VERY MUCH A PERSONAL REFLECTION, BUT IT COULD BE THE GERM OF AN IDEA WHICH MIGHT LATER SURFACE AS AN OFFICIAL PROPOSAL. WE POINTED OUT THAT ECONOMIC FEASIBILITY OF A PROPOSED CONTAINED REACEFUL NUCLEAR EXPLOSION WOULD HAVE TO BE CLEARLY PROVEN BEFORE OTHER APECTS COULD BE CONSIDERED. PORTER

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